

**Karen B. Tripp**  
 Attorney-at-Law  
 P.O. Box 1301  
 Houston, Texas 77251-1301

(713) 658-9323 - Telephone  
 (713) 658-9410 - Facsimile

**RECEIVED**  
**CENTRAL FAX CENTER**  
 SEP 23 2004

# FAX

DATE: 9/22/04 Our Ref.: 10/656,684

TO: Art Unit 1712

CO.: USPTO

FAX #: 703 872 9306 PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: Karen Tripp

RE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PAGES: 7 (including coversheet)

The information contained in this facsimile message is attorney privileged and confidential information intended for the use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this fax in error, please immediately notify us by telephone, and return the original message to us at the above address via U.S. Postal Service.

PTO/SB/21 (04-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031  
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	10/656,684	
	Filing Date	September 5, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Jeff Miller	
	Art Unit	1712	
	Examiner Name	To be Assigned	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	6	Attorney Docket Number	HALB:045

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/Declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	Credit Card Charge Form Authorization; IDS Transmittal Letter.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Karen B. Tripp, Reg. No. 30,452 Attorney at Law
Signature	<i>Karen Tripp</i>
Date	September 22, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the			
Typed or printed name	Karen B. Tripp		
Signature	<i>Karen B. Tripp</i>	Date	September 22, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9198 and select option 2.

PTO/SB/17 (10-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0851-0032

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**FEE TRANSMITTAL  
for FY 2004**

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)** \$180.00**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/656,684
Filing Date	September 5, 2003
First Named Inventor	Jeff Miller
Examiner Name	To be Assigned
Art Unit	1712
Attorney Docket No.	HALB:045

**METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)**☐ Check ☒ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None☒ Deposit Account:Deposit  
Account  
Number

50-0807

Deposit  
Account  
Name

Karen B. Tripp, Attorney at Law

The Director is authorized to:

(check all that apply)

☒ Charge fee(s) indicated herein ☒ Credit any overpayments☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.**FEE CALCULATION****1. BASIC FILING FEE**

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001 770	2001 385	Utility filing fee	
1002 340	2002 170	Design filing fee	
1003 530	2003 265	Plant filing fee	
1004 770	2004 385	Reissue filing fee	
1005 160	2005 80	Provisional filing fee	

**SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)****2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND**

Extra Claims		Fee from below	Fee Paid
Total Claims	-20** = 0	X	0.00
Independent Claims	-3** = 0	X	0.00
Multiple Dependent			

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1202 18	2202 9	Claims in excess of 20	
1201 88	2201 43	Independent claims in excess of 3	
1203 290	2203 145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid	
1204 88	2204 43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent	
1205 18	2205 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent	

**SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)** \$0.00

\*\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

**FEE CALCULATION (continued)****3. ADDITIONAL FEES**

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051 130	2051 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052 80	2052 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053 130	2053 130	Non - English specification	
1812 2,520	1812 2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
1804 920*	1804 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805 1,840*	1805 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251 110	2251 55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252 420	2252 210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253 850	2253 475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254 1,480	2254 740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255 2,010	2255 1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401 330	2401 165	Notice of Appeal	
1402 330	2402 165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403 280	2403 145	Request for oral hearing	
1451 1,510	1451 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452 110	2452 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453 1,330	2453 665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501 1,330	2501 665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502 480	2502 240	Design issue fee	
1503 640	2503 320	Plant issue fee	
1460 130	1460 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807 50	1807 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(u)	
1808 180	1808 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Statement	180.00
8021 40	8021 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809 770	2809 385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
1810 770	2810 385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
1801 770	2801 385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802 900	1802 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

\*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

**SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)** \$180.00**SUBMITTED BY**

Name (Print/Type)

Karen B. Tripp

Registration No.  
(Attorney/Agent)

30,452

**Complete (if applicable)**

Telephone

713 658 9323

Signature

Karen B. Tripp

Date

September 22, 2004

**WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

<b>TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> (Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))				Docket No. HALB:045	
In Re Application Of: Jeff Miller and Jeff Kirsner					
Application No. 10/175,272	Filing Date June 19, 2002	Examiner To be Assigned	Customer No.	Group Art Unit 1712	Confirmation No.
Title: Drilling Fluid and Method for Enhanced Suspension					
<p style="text-align: center;">Address to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>37 CFR 1.97(b)</b></p> <p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>37 CFR 1.97(c)</b></p> <p>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><input type="checkbox"/> the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).</p>					

09/23/2004 EFLORES 00000113 10656684

01 FC:1806

180.00 OP

<b>TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> (Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))					Docket No. <b>HALB:045</b>	
In Re Application: <b>Jeff Miller and Jeff Kirsner</b>						
Application No. <b>10/175,272</b>	Filing Date <b>June 19, 2002</b>	Examiner <b>To be Assigned</b>	Customer No.	Group Art Unit <b>1712</b>	Confirmation No.	
Title: <b>Drilling Fluid and Method for Enhanced Suspension</b>						
<div style="text-align: center;"><b>Payment of Fee</b> (Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))</div> <div style="margin-top: 10px;"><input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ is attached. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No.    <b>50-0807</b> as described below.<div style="margin-left: 20px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge the amount of    <b>\$180.00</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional fee required.</div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. <b>WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</b></div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 20px;"><div style="width: 45%; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Certificate of Transmission by Facsimile*</div><div style="font-size: x-small;">I certify that this document and authorization to charge deposit account is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No.    <b>703 872 9306</b> <b>9/22/04 cst    9/23/04 est</b> (Date)  _____ Signature <b>Karen B. Tripp</b> _____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate</div></div><div style="width: 45%; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail</div><div style="font-size: x-small;">I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1460, Alexandria, VA 22313-1460." (Date) _____ Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence <b>Karen B. Tripp</b> _____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Certificate</div></div></div> <div style="margin-top: 20px;"><div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div style="width: 45%;"><p><b>*This certificate may only be used if paying by deposit account.</b></p> _____ Signature</div><div style="width: 45%; text-align: right;"><p>Dated:    <b>September 22, 2004</b></p></div></div><div style="margin-top: 10px; font-size: small;"><p><b>Karen B. Tripp, Reg. No. 30,452</b> Attorney at Law P.O. Box 1301 Houston, Texas 77251-1301 (713) 658-9323 phone (713) 658-9410 fax ktripp@tripplaw.com</p><p>cc:</p></div></div>						

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0851-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/656,684
Filing Date	September 5, 2003
First Named Inventor	Jeff Miller and Jeff Kirsner
Art Unit	1712
Examiner Name	To be Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	HALB:045

[illegible][illegible]

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

**If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.**

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning  
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

**BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ BLACK BORDERS
- ☐ IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- ☒ FADED TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☒ BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☐ SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- ☐ COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS
- ☐ GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS
- ☒ LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
- ☐ REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY
- ☐ OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.**